

Is it worth it?



In 1995, Denise Wagoner was involved in a near fatal car crash, the victim of an impaired driver. She had multiple skull fractures, crunched vertebrae, crushed ribs, and a swollen brain. Every facial bone was broken, her arm was broken, and she lost her sight. Doctors did not expect her to live another 24 hours. Denise survived, later to have extensive surgery fifteen times, seven on her face alone. She is now disfigured and blind, with permanent brain damage. This life-changing experience was the result of her own actions. Denise was the impaired driver.

Denise Wagoner



Before the Accident





Denise's Car









Denise's Face After the First Couple of

NSC-70C&M070048-DUI (1209)_DUI: Is It Worth It?

Surgeries



Denise...7 Surgeries

NSC-70C&M070048-DUI (1209)_DUI: Is It Worth It?

Later



Denise has spent the last two years sharing her story, and has spoken to high school classes, drivers education programs, and convicted DUI offenders about her experience. She shares a powerful message about impaired driving, drug abuse, alcoholism, wearing of safety belts.

Denise today...



...after 15 surgeries!



Once Again



The Myths of Drinking and Driving

MYTH 1: You can sober up with black coffee, a cold shower, fresh air or exercise.

Only time can sober up a person. Many factors contribute to how much alcohol it takes for a person to become impaired. A person's weight and how much food they have in their stomachs at the time of alcohol consumption are two such factors. For example, depending on height and weight of someone who has had five drinks in two hours will probably need at least three more hours without alcohol to sober up. Research shows the effects of alcohol take longer to wear off on women. "Women generally get tipsy faster and stay high longer than men matching them drink for drink."



The Myths of Drinking and Driving

MYTH 2: Drinking beer or wine will not make you as drunk as hard liquor.

REALITY: A 12-oz. beer, a 5-oz. glass of wine, and a 1-oz. shot of hard liquor all contain the same amount of alcohol.

Depending on your drink of choice, it may actually have MORE alcohol than a shot of hard liquor.

MYTH 3: You can tell if a friend is drunk by looking at him.

REALITY: Judgment is the first thing affected when someone has been drinking and important motor skills are next.

Even one drink can impair someone's ability to drive.

Someone's physical appearance can be misleading.

The Myths of Drinking and Driving

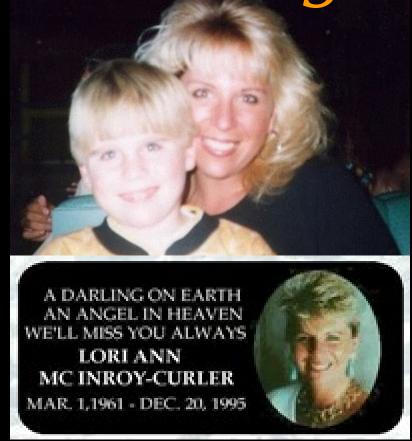
MYTH 4: I'm OK...I've only had 1-2 beers...I only live a few miles away...I can make it.

REALITY: You may feel alright, but the alcohol has already impaired your reflexes, motor skills, and thought processes. If you drink and drive...it's only a matter of time before you are stopped and taken into custody or kill someone. Is it really worth it?

MYTH 5: If arrested, I'll hire the best DUI attorney in town to defend me.

REALITY: A cop with an established DUI arrest/conviction record, training, and experience will always prevail in court.

Is Heaven in the Yellow Pages?



"Mommy went to heaven, but I need her here today, my tummy hurts and I fell down, I need her right away.

Operator can you tell me how to find her in this book? Is heaven in the yellow part, I don't know where to look.

I think my daddy needs her too, at night I hear him cry.
I hear him call her name sometimes, but I really don't know why.

Maybe if I call her, she will hurry home to me. Is heaven very far away; is it across the sea?

She's been gone a long, long time she needs to come home now! I really need to reach her, but I simply don't know how.

Help me find the number please, is it listed under "heaven"? I can't read these big big words, I am only seven.

I'm sorry operator, I didn't mean to make you cry, is your tummy hurting too, or is there something in your eye?

If I call my church maybe they will know.

Mommy said when we need help that's where we should go.

I found the number to my church tacked up on the wall.

Thank you operator, I'll give them a call."



Your Options

Continue to drink and drive.
 "I can handle it...I've done it for years!"

- Opt not to drink if you intend to drive.
- Find a designated driver before you drink.
- As a last resort...
 - Call a cab! (Cheaper than court costs)
 - Call a friend, supervisor, anyone! (Free)
 - Call AADD for help! (Free)

Arrive Alive Don't Drink And Drive